



DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative

More than Cherry Blossoms:

Monday, October 30, 2017 3:30-6:00 p.m.,
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History
10th St. & Constitution Ave. NW,

Moderator Biography:



Linda Donovan Harper has served on the board of directors of The DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative for the past 4 years and currently serves as the Chair of the Board.

Previously, from 2007 through 2012, she served as the Executive Director of Cultural Tourism DC, a non-profit coalition of more than 250 cultural, heritage, and community-based entities in the nation's capital. Cultural Tourism DC and its members help residents and visitors experience DC's authentic culture and heritage promoting both the District's vibrant neighborhoods and the international community. Under her leadership, the organization created Passport DC, a month-long celebration of international culture. In 2012, The Catalogue for Philanthropy recognized Cultural Tourism DC as one of the "Best Managed Non-profits in the Washington, DC Metro region".

Between 2001 and 2007, Harper served as Chair of the Board of The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery. With her broad, day-to-day duties, Harper worked as the de facto executive director of the organization. Located on Capitol Hill, the Cemetery is a National Landmark site. In addition, Harper worked as director for the professional exchange and community sustainability program at The Countryside Institute in New York. In this position she worked with rural communities and regions in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States and with various partner organizations such as The Trust for Public Lands and the Land Trust Alliance. At the National Trust for Historic Preservation, she was a member of the management committee at the National Main Street Center, a widely recognized economic development program. Harper was instrumental in development of the Small Towns program as well as working with over 200 communities across the United States.

Harper holds a BS in Humanities from Missouri Valley College (Marshall, Missouri) and pursued graduate level work in art history at the University of Kansas, Lawrence and the University of Missouri, Columbia. She serves on the boards of the International Student House and Covenant House Greater Washington. She is married to Robert Demers and lives in Arlington, VA. Asked to describe herself she would say..."Strategic thinker, enthusiastic, hits the ground running, calm under fire, fair...and playful."



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Panelist Biographies:



Nik Apostolides is an arts leader, educator, and independent curator. He is currently Deputy CEO of the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center. Prior to this position, he worked as the Associate Director of the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery. Previously, he served as the Associate Manager for Planning at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Nik earned his B.A. with a double major in art history and classical civilizations from Wesleyan University in Connecticut; and his Certificate in Nonprofit Management from the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Case Western Reserve University. He is a graduate of the Getty Museum Leadership Institute. Nik serves as a Vice President on the DC Collaborative Board of Directors.



As its first Director of Education and Interpretation, **Sarah Jencks** has spent ten years developing award-winning programs for Ford's Theatre Society at the nexus of history, theatre and education. She oversees all student and teacher programming, as well as web content and museum exhibitions, leading initiatives to develop teacher and student programs that serve more than 200,000 young people each year. Among the online public history programs she has launched are the award-winning Remembering Lincoln initiative and the Ford's Theatre presence on Google Arts and Culture. In December 2016, Ford's launched a new website including all new, highly dynamic history content. Sarah has helmed three grant projects from the Institute for Museum and Library Services and two from the National Endowment for the Humanities. She is most proud of the National Oratory Fellows program, which brings together teachers from across the country to learn from Abraham Lincoln's great speeches and integrate oratory and performance into their teaching practice. Prior to joining Ford's, Sarah taught Social Studies, Language Arts, Drama and Visual Art in a variety of K-12 settings. She also oversaw professional development programs for the Center for Arts Education and the New York State Council for the Arts. Sarah holds a Master's in Education from the School Leadership Program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she serves on the Alumni Council, and an A.B. in American Civilization from Brown University.



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Jeanette McCune, Director of School and Community Programs, provides strategic leadership and vision for Kennedy Center's local and national partnerships with schools and community based organizations, including DC Public School Partnerships, Changing Education Through the Arts, Turnaround Arts, Any Given Child and Partners in Education. From 2001 to 2017, Jeanette led Kennedy Center's relationships with Washington, DC public and charter schools, serving on the intra-institutional team to design and guide Kennedy Center programs to positively impact the local community. Her program portfolio includes a comprehensive partnership with DCPS, in-depth partnerships in 22 DC public and public charter schools, performance access programs for community organizations

and schools in the greater DC metro area, a facilitator for the Ensuring the Arts for Any Given Child collective impact initiative, and lead mentor and founder of the Kennedy Center's Youth Council. She serves on the boards of directors for the Duke Ellington School of the Arts Partnership and the DC Arts and Humanities Collaborative. Ms. McCune managed out-of-school artistic development programs at the Kennedy Center, including the Dance Theatre of Harlem Residency and Musicals in the Schools, and served as a Girl Scouts leader and troop manager for four years. Prior to joining the Kennedy Center staff, Ms. McCune served as Director of Community and Education Programs at the Choral Arts Society of Washington and Marketing Manager at American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works. Jeanette earned a Bachelor of Music with a Minor in Business, and a MBA, both from Drake University, Des Moines, IA.



Gregory McGruder serves as vice president for Live Events at the National Geographic Society, overseeing the lectures, film screenings, panel discussions and other events that take place at National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, DC.

Before his current position he served as vice president for Public Programs, leading the national expansion of the Society's lectures series, NG Live!, and was one of the founders of the National Geographic Speakers Bureau. He also oversaw the National Geographic All Roads Film Project and Festival, the National Geographic Museum, and the National Geographic Bee.



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He has served on various grant-making committees at National Geographic and is currently a member of the committee that selects and mentors Fulbright-National Geographic Fellows.

For three years, he has served on the jury of the DC International Film Festival Circle Award is a member or the board of the DC Environmental Film Festival. He has and also performs with Jubilee Voices and Heritage Voices—two vocal groups, whose repertoire reflects traditional American music, under the auspices of The Washington Revels. Greg serves as a Vice President on the DC Collaborative Board of Directors.



Barbara Stauffer, Chief of Community Programs and Partnerships National Museum of Natural History, received her B.A. in History from the University of Virginia and a M.A. in Geography from The George Washington University. She began her museum career working on temporary exhibitions at the Natural History Museum and became Chief of Temporary Exhibitions in 2008. In 2012, after a year-long assignment in the FutureNSF office of the National Science Foundation developing a public engagement strategy for the foundation's new headquarters, she returned to the Museum as Chief of Programs and Partnerships and was a Noyce Leadership

Institute fellow from February 2013 through May 2014. In her current position, she is responsible for adult, family, school, youth and citizen science programs. She is particularly interested in seeking out partnerships, developing engagement platforms, and designing community events that creatively and effectively engage diverse audiences with the Museum's collections, exhibitions, research and overall mission. Barbara serves on the DC Collaborative Board of Directors.

*A special thanks to our co-host,
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History!*



Smithsonian
National Museum
of Natural History



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